

In the specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, paragraphs 1 and 2:

Field of the Invention

The invention relates to a method for the preparation of a doped oxide material ~~according to the preamble of the appended claim 1.~~

An important usage of doped glass materials is light amplification waveguides, for example active optical fibres, whose light amplifying properties are based on utilizing stimulated emission. In order to make stimulated emission possible, the glass material in the core of the active optical fiber, and possibly the cladding layer surrounding the core, are doped with dopants, which are rare earth metals, for example erbium. In addition to optical fibers, the doped glass materials can also be used in different kinds of optical planar waveguides.

Background of the Invention

Page 4, paragraph 3:

Summary of the Invention

It is the main aim of the present invention to present a completely new method for producing doped oxide material, with which method the above-described problems occurring in the processes according to prior art are avoided.

Page 5, paragraphs 3 and 4:

~~To attain these purposes, the method according to the invention is primarily characterized in what will be presented in the characterizing part of the independent claim 1.~~

~~The other dependent claims will present some preferred embodiments of the invention.~~

Paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7:

The invention and some of its advantageous embodiments are described more in detail in the following, where it will also become more clear to a man skilled in the art what the advantages reached with the invention are. The doped oxide material produced in the embodiment according to the example presented by means of the figures is a doped glass material, and on the basis of the description connected to it, a man skilled in the art can apply the invention also in producing other doped oxide materials by possibly implementing minor changes in the embodiment according to the example.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Page 11, paragraph 4:

It is, of course, obvious for anyone skilled in the art that by combining the modes of operation presented above in different ways in connection with different embodiments of the invention, it is possible to provide various embodiments of the invention in accordance with the spirit of the invention. Therefore, the above-presented examples must not be interpreted as restrictive to the invention, but the embodiments of the invention can be freely varied within the scope of the ~~inventive features presented in the claims hereinbelow~~ invention.